	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	10/080,143	VELDE ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Thomas D. Las	2025
	Thomas D. Lee	2625
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.		
1. This communication is responsive to <u>amendment filed 28 June 2006</u> .		
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>1 and 10-14</u> .		
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).		
a) ⊠ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:		
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.		
Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No		
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the		
International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).		
* Certified copies not received:		
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.		
4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.		
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.		
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached		
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date		
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of		
Paper No./Mail Date		
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).		
 DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL. 		
Attachment(s) 1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	5. ☐ Notice of Informal	Patent Application
2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	6. 🗌 Interview Summar	y (PTO-413),
3 Information Disclosure Statements (DTO/SB/08)	Paper No./Mail D 7. Examiner's Amend	ate
Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date	_	
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	_	nent of Reasons for Allowance
	9. Other	

Application/Control Number: 10/080,143 Page 2

Art Unit: 2625

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

This Office action is responsive to applicant's amendment filed June 28, 2006.
 Claims 1 and 10-14 are pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

- 2. Claims 1 and 10-14 are allowed.
- 3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: No prior art has been found to disclose or suggest applicant's selection of a third set of possible states, said third set being a real sub-set of a second set of possible states of a quantized image, said second set being is a real sub-set of a first set of possible states of an input pixel; and quantizing a next modified pixel to obtain a next quantized pixel value by selecting one state out of said third state, wherein the third set in selected depending on, or as a function of, a state of said input pixel, as recited in base claims 1, 13 and 14. As mentioned in applicant's remarks on pages 5 and 6 of the current amendment, the cited prior art (Dispoto) does not disclose or suggest quantization of a modified input pixel being influenced by the value of the *unmodified* input pixel. In the amended base claims, the input pixel clearly refers to a pixel obtained from an input image prior to modification to generate a modified pixel value.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas D. Lee whose telephone number is (571) 272-7436. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:30-5:00, alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on (571) 272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Thomas D Lee

Primary Examiner

Technology Division 2625

tdl

September 12, 2006